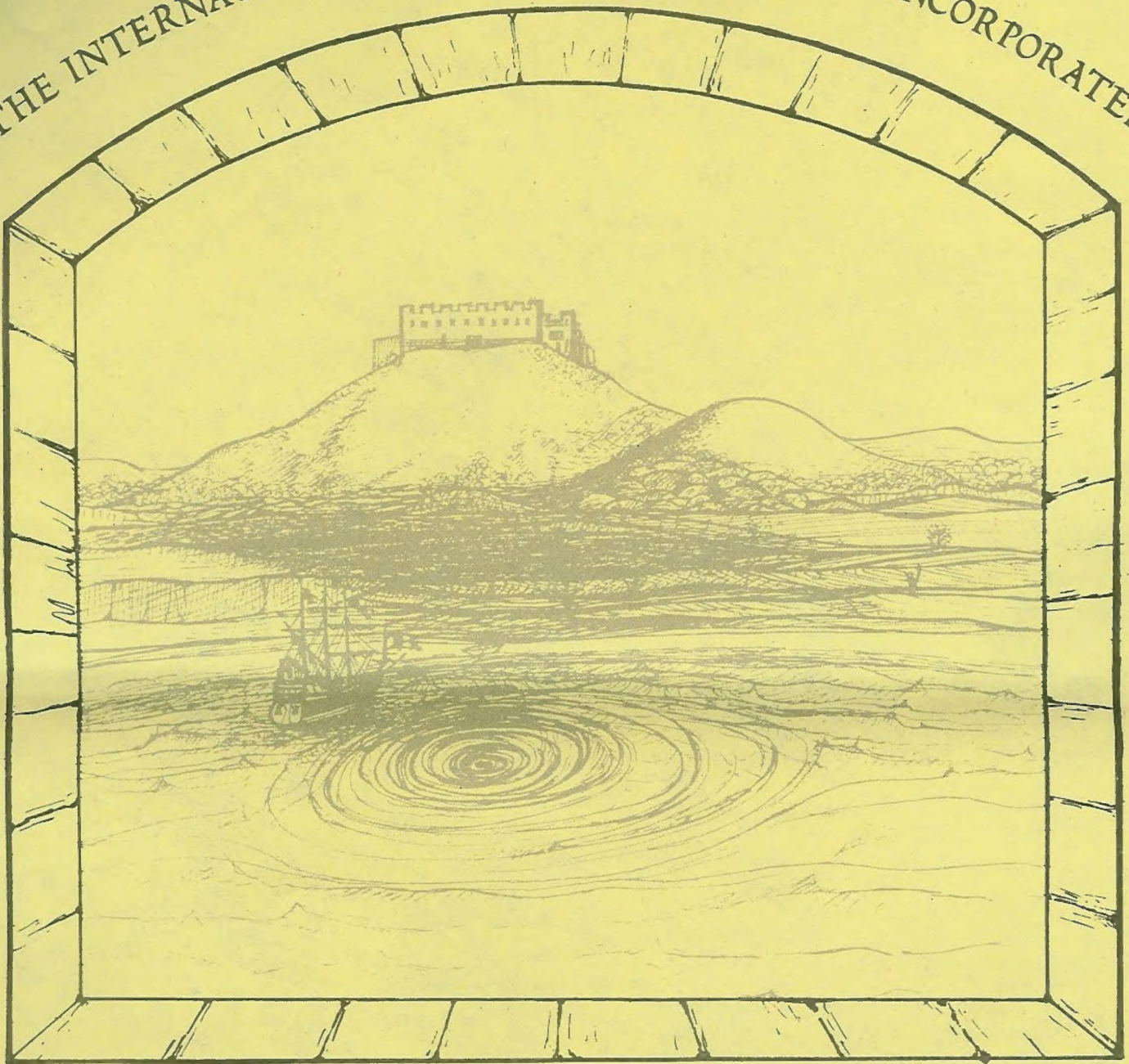


THE INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF MARTINISTS INCORPORATED

Worthing - Barbados - West Indies



PLANE III

GRADE: *COMPANION*

LIBER 47 A quick recovery

Private & Confidential

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DEVOTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT AND MYSTICAL ENLIGHTENMENT OF MAN

COMPANIONS ARE SEATED IN THEIR ORATORIES

#179

Respected Companions

We continue.

P U T R E F A C T I O (continued)and F E R M E N T I O

"That he might ... purify unto himself a peculiar people,
zealous of all good works." Titus 2:14

We have noted that Putrefactio is the principle KEY to the process of Transmutation, as it is to the phenomena of generation.

Second, that Humanity in the total is the feminine recipient or matrix of the higher spiritual Seed of LIGHT.

Third, that the process of life in Man is maintained by two activities: **breathing** and **eating**. Living flesh receives its vitality from food and air by the processes of Putrefactio and Fermentio; we also observed that the Human Body bears the likeness of a great yeast plant.

PUTREFACTION IS THE TRANSMUTIVE AGENT In other words: the moment we divest the term "Putrefactio" from the objectionable associations which ordinarily attach to it, we find the process of Putrefactio one of the most sublime spiritual agencies, and the modus of passing from a lower estate to a higher; the actual transmutive activity of all evolutionary development.

Thus far we have applied our study of Putrefactio to the lower forms of life, and to the human body as far as it relates to the physical body and environment. But when we apply it to human life in its outward manifestation either as Humanity in the total, or the individual as a unit, we find that it applies with equal truth and power.

The daily life of each one of us, is a process of Putrefaction. It has been said to you many times over that *the seed of Men and Metals is identical*. All Seed in the ultimate produces Gold, and the result of all Seed in any of the Life Kingdoms, is Gold IN THE VARIOUS PROCESSES OF DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PURIFYING PUTREFACTIONAL PROCESSES. Let us amplify this thought.

In the microcosmic womb or matrix of the earthly Mother, the Seed of Man first dies that it may be quickened. Our previous lecture traced its development through forty weeks until it appears in the microcosmic world as Physical Man. What

is this product of flesh and blood? Why does so much of value and paramount interest attach to it? Why does the Church, the State, and the Law unite to surround this helpless, mindless being with all possible safety and protection that is, alas, denied to those of its species, of riper years? Too often we hear it said lightly by a devoted mother of her child, that it "is worth its weight in Gold" — yet little does she realize that it IS PURE GOLD.

This is not a figment or figure of speech. It is not a pleasing sentence based upon sentiment which too often is not based upon common sense or logic. *The Mite of Gold and the Mite of Humanity are each, as one of Nature's greatest mysteries: PURE GOLD, differing only in vibratory status; the Mite of Humanity being infinitely farther along the Path of Evolution, than the Mite of Metal still in its mineral, crystalized state.* And both being the precious metal of the mundane world, both receive the greatest care, attention, affection and interest it is possible to give them.

Yet the precious Mite of Human Gold is merely the product of the essential metals of the Seed of its parents united, and which by the glorious spiritual process of putrefaction carried on in the maternal matrix, has been transmuted into the next higher step of its evolutionary career, that of basic protoplasm, on which the later structure of cellular tissues and substance has been built.

This brings us a bit nearer to an understanding of the language of the Hermetic Alchemists. With them, the following definitions existed:

- 1st. Sol Philosophorum, was the Pure, Living Alchemical Spirit of Gold, and the refined Essence of Heat and Fire.
- 2nd. Luna Philosophorum, was the Pure, Living Alchemical Spirit of Silver, and the refined Essence of Cold and Moisture.
- 3rd. The Green Dragon, was the stem and root of the radical essence of metals.
- 4th. The Black Dragon, was Death, PUTREFACTION, Change.
- 5th. The King, was Microposophus, Redness, Tiphareth, analogous to Gold and Sol.
- 6th. The Queen, was the Bride of Microposophus, Malkuth, analogous to Silver and Luna.
- 7th. The Cucurbite, was the boiler or alembic, for the purpose of Distillation.
- 8th. The Athanor, was the philosophical furnace for furnishing a graded heat.

- 9th. The Balnaeum Mariae, was a water bath or vessel of hot water, in which was placed a vessel to receive moist heat.
- 10th. The Balnaeum Arcuae, was the sand bath in which was placed a vessel to receive dry heat.
- 11th. The Philosophical Egg, was the oval vessel wherein any matter or liquid was placed to be acted upon, and WHICH COULD BE HERMETICALLY SEALED UP. Also the Head.

Herein we may find elements and instruments, which, when assembled, make possible the phenomena of human birth or the transmutation of the metallic Gold in the seed of the human parents, into the living tissue of the duplication of their species.

In the marriage of the King and Queen, Sol and Luna Philosophorum unite in the human Cucurbite for Distillation of their essential powers, until, slain by the Black Dragon of Death, Putrefaction and Change, the Green Dragon becomes transmuted into the Red Dragon, which last became Hermetically sealed up in the Philosophical Egg (Matrix or womb which closes after conception is fully accomplished); placed in the Athanor (of the human body) from which a graded heat is furnished.

In the understanding of these terms will be found the light of Alchemy, and it will be seen how the Alchemists concealed their knowledge of Nature's Laws and Processes under the protection thus afforded, at a time when the ecclesiastical powers used their utmost endeavours to suppress such intellectual and scientific progress. Not this alone, either -- the language of the alchemists concealed scientific truths, and above all -- SPIRITUAL TRUTHS -- which have since been lost by exoteric religious exegesis.

MINERAL GOLD & HUMAN GOLD. In following the process of human conception, gestation and birth, we witness the transmutation of the purest and most precious metals into the purest and most precious protoplasmic Gold. Static Gold into Living, breathing, Gold. Gold in the bosom of Mother Earth is the purest metal known to man. Gold at the bosom of an Earthly Mother is the purest protoplasm known to man. Both are equal in purity.

But just as putrefaction brought about this wondrous phenomenon in the hidden recesses of the material matrix, so also does it continue its work when the pure Gold has been brought into the world. Nothing could be farther from the truth than the archaic and senseless doctrine of "original sin," so-called, -- for the Golden Mite of Humanity is indeed a "Lamb, spotless before the world." But let us continue to apply the process of Putrefaction.

The finest golden product of the jeweler's art loses its attractiveness and no longer compels interest and attention when by long usage, handling and age, it is tarnished by the soil-ation of many hands and associations. It becomes out of fashion

as to shape, and though a certain value always inheres, sooner or later it goes the way of all gold before it — back to the smelter's hands. Does any one stop to question what has become of all the gold that has been taken out of the bosom of Mother Earth since Man first awoke to its true value and began to mine and fashion it? Gold is constantly mined, yet from time to time there is an absolute shortage. Yet great quantities have been taken from Mother Earth throughout the ages, and history informs us of its plenitude at the courts of ancient Kings, when huge vessels, and even in the days of old Egypt the chains of slaves, were made of it. What has become of it? Granting that much may still lay buried in long forgotten or unknown sites of ruined cities, that would not account for the total disappearance of so much of it.

Through the years, with some fluctuations as cited above, the amount of gold known to exist at a given time seems to maintain an approximate average.

The same analogy applies to Golden Humanity.

As the Golden Human Mite grows in body and estate, the process of Putrefaction is always attendant upon him. This is the inexorable law of Nature. Otherwise, being born comparatively perfect, without Putrefaction we should always remain perfect, and no credit would attach to any of us for bearing the struggles of life, triumphing over error (for none would exist), and we should all be negatively good — lukewarm — and Scripture gives no greater condemnation than the lukewarm. As we contact the world we become soiled by long usage, handling and age; we too become tarnished by the soiling of many hands and associations. We too become out of fashion as to shape, for each succeeding decade witnesses developments of physical shape according to the mandates of style and fashion — or fashion-defying common sense — and the desire for better bodies. No longer do we attract, or compel, and hold the attention awarded us in our infancy. The only interest displayed in us, is that which is given condescendingly to old age, the interest that attaches in a friendly way to wrinkles and weather-beaten bodies, sentimentally provided with a habitat while waiting our summons to enter upon the long, long journey.

Does anyone stop to question what has become of all the humanity that has existed upon the bosom of Mother Earth since Man first awoke to his true value and began to "Know Himself"? Yet great numbers of human beings have existed upon Mother Earth since the dawn of the Ages, and history informs us of the numbers that have gone down in wars, pestilences and famines aside from so-called "natural deaths."

Great numbers of human beings have come forth from their human mothers throughout the ages, yet from time to time absolute shortages of births are recorded in one country or another. In the end, the old, unfashionable bodies go the way of all bodies before them — back to the hands of the Nature's

Alchemical Smelters.

Over the years, with some fluctuations, the number of human beings upon the earth at a given time, seems to maintain an approximate average.

Now and again some curio hunter or relic lover pulls out an old heirloom of golden jewelry, polishes it up and proudly exhibits it.

Now and again some ancestor worshipper resuscitates the oldest living member of his family tree, polishes him or her up in the latest fashionable modes, tries to transmute grandmother back into sweet young girlhood by dresses short at both ends, artificial hair, grease paint and facial kalsomine, and proudly exhibits her.

NATURAL TRANSMUTATION However, in the case of both the metal and the human relic or heirloom, inexorable Nature dooms, both to succumb to the activities of Putrefaction, not that either may be lost, but that the same approximate average of quantity and number of each may be maintained upon the Earth at all times, coming and going, being born into physical life, being born into spiritual life.

Much of the Gold of the earliest days of our planet's life is now in higher forms and stages of evolution. Much of the humanity of our earth has also passed into higher forms and stages of evolution. Gold — in both cases; All is gold if we penetrate the disguise of Putrefaction and discover the approximate evolutionary stage of the instance under immediate observation.

ATOMIC STRUCTURES An atom of gold while given different chemical values and differing from the atomic weights of other substances, in its essential components is not materially different from any atom in the human organism. The Hermetic doctrine of the homogeneity of all substances holds true. We mentioned breathing earlier on as one of the processes by which human life was sustained.

The modicum of air which is breathed into the lungs of human beings or members of the vegetable Kingdom, vitalizing and energizing the blood or sap streams, is but a courser or rather denser manifestation of the same substance that is similarly breathed by the hierarchies of the inmost spheres, and in both cases is imparted the vital essence that emanates from
CREATIVE POWER AND INTELLIGENCE.

PUTREFACTIO IS BOTH A BUILDER AND A DESTROYER In each case, the substance breathed or inhaled may be changeable as to density or specific gravity as science cognizes it, but it is imperishable. Only one process affects it — Putrefactio, which frees the Divine vitality therein confined, like the energy confined in coal since the days of the Carboniferous era, that it

may unite with and vivify the organism into which it has been breathed, but this process of Putrefactio while setting at liberty the vitality that energizes the receiving organism, also sets at liberty the atomic constituents that they may recombine according to the laws of affinity and so maintain at all times their general charge of vital power and energy.

POTENTIAL OF ATOMS Every atom in a molecule possesses the form and general attributes of the molecule whose mass they compose, and the matrix of which, they are. Likewise just as the Human Being is a microcosmic reproduction or reflection of the Macrocosmic Creative Power, so every atom in the Human Body is, infinitesimally, a Human Body in itself -- a world -- a universe. Every inseparable atom in the Human Body is analogous with every inseparable atom in the substance in Mother Earth, and under proper cosmic conditions is capable of being developed into a sphere even like unto the great sphere itself. Each atom revolves on its own axis, and each is capable of being brought to solar and cosmic proportions.

Now breathing is really the process of "gaping for life."

It is a process that is performed not only by every atom, but by every individual organ in the body as well. Minerals, Plants, Animals and Humans alike, breathe, in some definite form. The phenomenon of breathing is the resultant of the positive and negative, or active and passive conditions of the atomic structure of a given organism. From the atomic basis, the positive atoms may be said to become polarized and merged into their own negatives and vice versa. In the case of the air inbreathed, the sheath of negative electricity surrounding the atom disintegrates and is absorbed, leaving nothing in the lung cavity except the charge of positive electricity or vitality. As an illustration, the transformation of passive Water, into active Steam may be cited.

And as the action of positive & negative in the atomic structure results in the phenomenon of breathing, so the movements manifested thereby may also be said to be dual, and may be characterized as:

1. Female -- contractile, compressive and actively receptive.
2. Male -- in action expansive, disseminative.

FERMENTATION Thus, by the action of the involuntary muscles, the chest and lung cavities expand according to the requirements of the organism for aeriform vitality. The air inflows, and as the lung cavities gape for it, each pore expands to its utmost, actively and eagerly receptive. The opposite movement contractile and compressive, forces the air received into the utmost receptive orifice and then expels the residual product of the almost instant putrefaction.

Now note how these rhythmic movements represent a

vast series of analogous movements throughout the entire organism. The lungs gape for air which inflows until it fills the entire chest cavity. The Blood gapes for its vitalizing content, the impulse being transmitted to the heart which in turn gapes for the inherent energy; the arteries gape, the capillaries, the veins. This rhythmic gape constitutes the pulse and in good health and balanced force or equilibrium it stimulates another complete series of gapes, that of the stomach for vitalizing food, the digestive and intestinal organs for the partially digested content. The mouth gapes; contact with the food sets in operation another set of nerves and muscles and the jaws close, mastication is effected and in the crunching and digesting of the food content, as stated previously, the "INHERENT, VITALIZING ESSENCES ARE OUTBORN FROM THEIR ATOMIC WOMBS."

Thus the entire Human Body or organism is a veritable womb of force, that which into which force enters, and that from which force is born. Verily it is a kingdom "which passeth understanding." While the process of gaping for food is in mind, consider how truly the Human Body presents the illustration of the Purgatory through which every soul must pass.

Into the human stomach infinitesimals of solar energy or "sols" enter, encast in food. But in their passing through this place of darkness by the fires of combustion they are released as "spirits from prison", and "redeemed" if found entitled to "sit in the holy place." Such become the "supreme Lords," in the Brain, reigning therein as stars in the firmament; others take their places as "living stones" in the organs of the body to which their evolutionary status entitles them. Others however, will be "swallowed up and consumed by the Great Dragon to be cast down into the place of outer darkness."

I have dwelt at some length on these two Instructions, upon the subject of Putrefaction, for despite its importance, the orthodox concept of it is such as to repel at first consideration rather than to attract. But when we once detect its real significance, we find ourselves in the presence of one of Nature's greatest mystical processes and Putrefaction stands revealed as the process of freeing the Divine Energy that it may further the progress of evolution.

In our next Liber we will deal with "Combustio", the seventh and last of the doctrinal exegeses we will interpret alchemically.

Q U E S T I O N S

Why did the alchemists conceal their teachings in such recondite language?

What is your concept of **Fermentation**; its nature and necessity?

What would be the situation if there was no Putrefaction?

Dear Friend

This lecture is a further variation of the previous one; it deals with the same subject in a different way.

We do not have to sit and meditate upon opening our Chakras as many groups do because these centres are open already to the expression of life within us.

What the lecture really shows is that we should transmute the already existing crystallised forms of the Divine Pattern into Spiritual Realities. For example, since the Cosmic Drama of the Christ is the Archetypal pattern of our bodily temple we are able to learn and become aware of our immortality by spiritualising the seeming transient ideas which constitute our physical nature. Because this is the truth regarding the real make-up of man we are in error to consider any other system based upon speculative philosophies. As we have said, the Cosmic Pattern is already known by our Elder Brothers and to ignore them and go our own way is courting disaster.

Purity and Truth is the only sure way to spiritual enlightenment.

With all blessings
Yours sincerely



Within your personality, that vesture fearfully and wonderfully made in the image of the Divine Mysteries of God, you will find the drama of the Book of Revelation continually taking place. But you must remember that this drama is taking place upon the seven regions of Being simultaneously, therefore each act of the drama has its own Key which will turn seven times before the final Mystery is revealed to you. This Key is applicable to all your Sacred writings no matter what religion, century or age.

When we come to deal with your personality which is called the "Scroll", having seven seals upon it, meaning that the physical body has seven force-centres through which life radiates the creative power giving to the personality life and consciousness. The curious expression of being 'written inside and on the back', this refers to the great sympathetic system of the body, having for its seat the pituitary seal which is located between the lobes of the cerebrum and the cerebellum in the head, whilst the cerebro-spinal axis has for its seat the pineal gland or seal which is located between the eyebrows, sometimes called the Third Eye of the Seer.

The methods of vivifying these seals are very clearly shown in the Drama of Jesus the Christ and the journey of Jesus from Bethlehem down to Egypt and his return to Jerusalem and the various miracles which were performed along the Jordan are the veiled instructions to the aspirant who wishes to become Illumined by the Fiery Power of the Soul. When this Power is awakened it rushes with a spiral movement through the whole body like liquid fire and on its upward rush towards the brain it vivifies each of the seals in its turn, the seals are opened, as it is given in REVELATIONS of John of Patmos (Patmos here refers to the thalamus in the head, it is called the Mount of God or the Soul).

In the body is the pneumogastric nerve which runs downward through the marrow of the spinal cord and branches out into the body to distribute the Fiery Power to the lungs and solar plexus, it is the passage of prana or breath into the lungs via the branches of the trachea or windpipe. Breath in Greek means 'ghost' hence we get the term 'descent of the Holy Ghost' and when at the age of twelve years, this breath unites with the two potencies of creative substances, that from the pineal seal, called Joseph and that of the pituitary seal called Maria. This descends down the two cords of the vagus nerve, which are extensions of the pineal and pituitary seals, one on each side of the spinal cord, and they cross the great 'strait' at the 12th dorsal vertebrae, and then down into 'Egypt where our Lord is crucified'. Hence united they return up to the semi-lunar ganglion nerve in the spine and thence into the Manger seal at Bethlehem, there the Divine Drama is enacted and 'Jesus is conceived of the Holy Ghost' - this simply means that the two fluids from the thalamus blended with the prana of the body have entered into the solar plexus and Jesus - the creative force is formed, when it is saved becomes the Christed One.

For a better understanding of this drama which takes place within the body of man; the Tree of Life is the branches of the pneumogastric nerve flooding the whole body with life, and the seven Lights of the body or candlesticks are the centres of the Divine Light of the Soul and the great Light between the branches of this Tree is your own immortal Soul, look at your thermometer, the lower part of the bowl which could be called the Dead Sea, or the Lake of Asphaltum (Clauda Equina in the body) in which lies the congealed mercury or quicksilver, which may be refined and raised by heat. The quick-silver is actually the crude sexual force and when this force is saved or redeemed by purification of the body, the rate is changed and at the correct moment, the Fiery Power within this force is released and will rise to the top of the spinal cord, thus the mercury rises up through the 33 vertebrae and goes over the top of the head and out through the tomb when the stone is rolled away, the entrance to the tomb is the suture between the two halves of the skull bones. It will be seen that if you allow your sex force to become refined it will rush up through the pneumo nerve, up through the spinal cord, into the seals, causing them to rotate and then up through the thalamus reaching the shade of the cerebrum or Shadow of the Most High.

You open the seals of the body by returning one-tenth of your substance to the pineal seal then into the upper brain which is called the 'Divine enduring substance' as Paul gives it. If this substance is saved from being wasted in generation and is offered as a willing sacrifice to the Most High, here referring to the Divine Soul, for it is We who use the cerebellum and reside in the secret place of the Most High, which is given in the Voice of the Silence when speaking of the Real Self resting 'Under the wings of the Great Bird' for the feathery convolutions shown in the cerebrum may well be compared to the feathers of a bird. 'Whatsoever a man thinketh in his heart so is he' can be now clearly seen to refer to the cerebellum which is the seat of thought and it is here that the Divine Man dwells,* 'He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty' - 91st Psalm. It is from this place in the anatomy of the brain that comes the 'oil' or 'ointment' - the two precious substances blended together which fructifies the brain of man.

The journey of this precious ointment is down the two nerves of the spinal cord (Jordan) thence to the solar plexus (Bethlehem) where it unites with the Breath and the Son of God is born from the Most High and then pass by the Dead Sea or Sacrum into generation to be crucified by the human passions in Egypt and remain there for twelve years before returning to Jerusalem or the cerebellum and disputes with the Doctors (the animal forces in the body) and then disappears into the thalamus. From then we hear no more of Jesus, because the whole of one's thought is directed towards material life.

* The Heart and Cerebellum are linked by way of the Vagus (Vaganti or Wandering) Nerve and is the 'telephone link' from 'The Golden Man' in the Right Ventricle of the Heart

When you have decided that material life does not bring you the joys, powers, wealth and happiness which you once sought, you begin to turn away from the material and seek the sacred place of the Most High. The very fact of the thought of man turning from the material to the spiritual has the tendency to quicken the Fiery Power within the sacrum at the base of the spinal cord. It begins to stir into activity, in other words Jesus now begins to make the journey up the spinal cord (Jordan) towards his deliverance.

Now let us take you into the secrets of your own Self, using the life of Jesus as our guide. This life is not only the life of one man which was supposed to have happened some 2,000 years ago, it is also your life here and now. Jesus then represents your sex force and the Christ is the oil or fire which is located in the semen and just like an automobile, the cerebellum the petrol tank, the solar plexus is the speedometer, and the spinal cord, is the passage-way from the oil tank. Woe be to you if you are out of oil as you will be if you continue to go down to generation. But if the quintessence of richness is kept with- in the body - when it is not wasted in riotous living - it will ascend the spinal cord, rising ever higher, lighting the various lamps (seals) as it moves upwards, until it reaches the heart of the Holy of Holies, the optic thalamus, vivifying it, and revealing the Divine Life, a glowing and scintillating Jewel of Glory reflecting the light of your own Supreme Self. It causes the vibrations of your Divine Soul to flood the human temple, the barriers are swept aside to receive the vibrations of the Soul which are translated into Wisdom and Light; the human Soul has been released from the tomb of matter and ascends to his Father which art in Heaven, the Shadow of the Most High.

The cerebrum whose convolutions receive all the vibrations from within and without transmits them to the thalamus within, passing them to the grey matter of the brain there to be translated into terms of the senses. The thalamus is the stone which was rejected by the builders and is called the Petra or Peter, and will, if not imbued with the Divine Light, become atrophied. The spinal cord can be likened to the stem of a Lotus. From this the Old Testament legend can be explained by saying that Lot's wife looked back to generation and became a Pillar of Salt. The man-semen has the odour of a fish and tastes like fish. Jesus was called Dagon meaning fish and he called his disciples - Fishers of Men.

What we are hinting at through these pages is simply this, there is within you a seed, which if saved and given up to the Highest will redeem you from the lower self. This seed is the Seed of Jesse (or Esse) which if it be lifted up will lift all men up. If instead you will waste this substance in riotous living the natural sequence of this will be to cause a deficiency or wasting away of the grey matter of the brain, for the Seed should be lifted up one-tenth (tithe) every 29½ days: it has

Original

been wasted in Egypt, the land of generation and the only way in which you can really attain Illumination is by returning one of the Seeds every 29½ days to the brain in the 'one way whereby you may be saved - Jesus Christed and crucified!'

The Seed or oil of the semen is carried up the 'strait and narrow way' of the spinal cord (Jordan) and is crucified at the place of Calvary (Pons) in the skull. This will then cause the sun and moon to stand still, the positive and negative forces within the body are balanced, the earth shall open and those who are 'dead' (incarnated) shall rise and walk and the temple veil shall be rent in twain, the final barrier between the pons and the thalamus is broken, and you are then free to enter and depart as you will from the tomb of the body.

Jesus, the Divine Seed or Word, was put in 'swaddling clothes' or covered and the nine mineral salts in the Medulla Oblongata, through which the two parents pass or flow on the way down the two vagus nerves, are carried along in sufficient quantities to form the crust or swaddling clothes which protect the 'Precious Oil' that is finally released when the Seeds are collected in the net on the top of the pons. This fishing on the right hand side or positivity of living, will cause this net to break and you will have a marvellous draft of fishes. The atomic spark plugs of the brain are then crossed by this oil and the seed is crucified, just as Jesus says: 'Father remove this cup (or cover) from me.'

It will now be seen that the pineal seal and the pituitary body secrete the positive and negative substance, the milk and honey of the seed is crucified between them, the oil which is then set free ascends to the pineal seal and illumines it. These two fluids being on either side of the pons or Golgotha are likened to the Two Thieves, one of whom is made to say 'Lord remember me when thou cometh into Thy Kingdom'. The reply, 'This day shalt thou be with me in Paradise' refers obviously to the final Union and ascension of these two fluids.

Finally, to understand the methods of opening the seals, one has to remember that the vagus nerve is called the 'Tree of Life', and the oil or sap which will flow down the plexus of nerves that branch off the main nerve is deposited in the manger or mouth of the fish, this then forms the Seed or semen of the Tree. This Seed, formed of the Esse of God, is named the Son of God.

The Drama can only be safely handled if you obey the Principles of the Disciplina Arcana before you attempt this procedure.

FRATERNITAS ROSÆ CRUCIS

Rome London
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No.

THE ELIXIR OF LIFE

"For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light we see light."
Psl. xvi: 9.



THE search for an "*Elixir of Life*" has been the occupation of many men of parts thruout the centuries. It has not been a will-o-the-wisp for the weak-minded and the impractical idealist. The search for an *elixir of life* has engaged the serious attention of hardy and intrepid adventurers, explorers and eminent men of science.

It has been said, most truthfully, that the practically universal belief in immortality is the greatest proof of immortality and that man's ability to conceive of it is further proof of his capacity for it.

The same idea may, with equal truth and propriety, be applied to the *elixir of life*.

Throughout the entire world, and even among the aborigines, will be found persons of intellectual and mental prominence, who are assured of the existence of an elixir of life, of some sort, and who seek it either by scientific method or thru primitive cult magic.

Both the *Panacea* and the *Elixir of Life* have been associated with the two polarities of the human mind sheath, the higher and the lower, but such associations are insufficient and are given only at certain stages of instruction, for the student must first cover certain preliminary ground work before attempting to grasp the deeper abstractions.

In lesson No. 2 of this present series, it will be found that the *Elixir* is said to be a liquid. This would seem quite natural considering the use of the word "*elixir*" which is usually applied to fluids, but in alchemical usage words are frequently used in other than their accepted meanings. However, we may, with some mental amplifications, regard the *Elixir* truly as a liquid or fluid. In this connection, it is notable that all thru Holy Writ we find, as in our subject text, *life or its sources* spoken of as fluid.

In the Scriptures of all great world faiths we find frequent allusions to fountains of life, waters, springs, wells and rivers of life, everlasting life, eternal life, immortal life and regenerated life, but always in a manner implying, if not actually specifying, fluid conditions. We must not forget that the beautiful State of Florida was discovered by Ponce de Leon while engaged in the search for a "Fountain of Youth."

Academically, the *Elixir Vitae* (*Elixir of life*) is defined as an "imaginary liquid or soluble substance by means of which the baser metals were to be changed into gold; the philosopher's stone. An imaginary

cordial (Lat. *cor*—heart) supposed to be capable of sustaining life indefinitely. Also, from the Arabic *El Iksir*, *El*—the, and *Iksir*, Philosopher's Stone. (Greek, *xeros*—dry)."

The *Elixir* and the *Philosopher's Stone* are two entirely distinct and separate things but as the functions of each were assumed by many to be quite similar, the words have been applied indiscriminately as synonyms. Encyclopædic information is as meagre as other academic sources with the single exception that it bears out our statement that the *Elixir* and the *Stone* are two different things. The *Britannica* states that the *Elixir* "had a wider meaning than 'philosopher's stone', and the name was given 'to the substance which would indefinitely prolong life'."

Is it possible that such a liquid as a true elixir of life could be prepared? Is it possible that logical, well-balanced men would devote their time to the pursuit of such an apparent chimera? Well, the answer of history is—yes. Records show references to such alleged preparations among the ancients and the medievalists were not far behind them. The Age of Alchemy stimulated the search. It was in the period 1693-1768 that Bestuzhev-Ryumin, Alexius Petrovich the famous Russian grand-chancellor and statesman, invented his marvelous "drops", *tinctura toniconervina Bestucheffi*. The recipe for these drops was stolen by the French Brigadier Lamotte, who introduced it at the French Court as *Elixir d'Or*. He made his fortune thru it.

Nor should we forget or omit the wonderful paste (Gr. *xeros*—dry) or dry liquid made by the Carthusian monks, the *Elixir* or *Boule d'acier*, a mineral paste or salve with marvelous efficacy. This was brot out way back in 1137, later in 1676 and finally in 1840. It is known that in some of the Tibetan provinces, the natives have an elixir that acts magically to revive, rejuvenate and even to prolong life to a remarkable extent. British official observers have attested this fact. The only reason the elixir does not produce still greater effects is due to the unsanitary condition of the natives themselves, for they will take baths at the hot springs which occur in some places in Tibet but otherwise refuse to wash their bodies at all. This, together with their national diet which is far from the vegetarianism asserted by some occult idealists who know nothing about the real Tibet, produces unhealthy conditions in an otherwise rugged stock that reaches a remarkable old age in some sections of the country.

In our own times, adrenalin has worked wonders on hearts that have ceased to beat, and early in 1929 the Russian professors Moulabkov and Andriev in the presence of Dr. Eugene Klotz, noted German savant, injected their secret elixir "*ringer-lokke*" into the body of a man who had been dead twenty-nine hours. After several hours, reactions were noted, heat developed and sound issued thru the throat. Actual revival was accomplished and then the body relapsed into its former condition. But the experiment proved the power of resuscitation inherent in certain potencies.

Research in the domain of endocrinology has shown that our bodily alchemists, the glands, have a wonderful power and process of secreting infinitesimal potencies that actually make and shape our character, personality and individuality and accomplish our successes or our failures in life according to our reactions to the stimulus supplied, which operates thru the autonomic vegetative system principally. The essence of these secretions is called, in each instance, the *hormone*. Nobody has seen a hormone but the name is given to a *something* that exists inherently in the individual or special secretion.

Then there is the now famous piece of chicken heart that has been kept in a proper solution for years, by Dr. Carrel, and which has *perpetuated itself* thru so many generations that its substance has, continually, to be reduced. This experiment has proved the capacity of tissue to endure indefinitely and continue to grow if kept in a healthy state. Health then seems to be the *sine qua non* and no amount of elixirs can be effective unless and until the subject takes the proper care of his health.

One thing in particular impresses itself upon the observing student and that is, that health is a pre-requisite for the activity of any restorative agency. Health means freedom from *dis-ease*. Health is a state of

stability, or ease, equilibrium and only where the component elements and forces of a given organism or matter are in equilibrium will there be found true health. Health, or freedom from disease means wholeness and wholeness not only implies the presence or completion of all requisite parts, faculties, functions and factors, but something vastly higher. For completion in the true sense of the word implies perfection, at least in its comparative sense and usage. And such a status implies not only wholeness, but that for which wholeness is a true synonym—*holiness*.

The *Elixir Vitae* or Elixir of Life is then, theoretically at least, a vital essence capable of exercising notable rejuvenating and preservative powers if applied rightly. If applied in disease it would restore to health which we have seen is a state of mental and physical equilibrium. If applied while the subject or artist-neofite is in health, it would operate to prolong a *healthy* (in every sense of the word) life indefinitely. Furthermore, it is a matter of record that essential elixirs *have been* prepared in many races over a wide geographical area that have seemingly possess the wonderful properties ascribed to the *Elixir* wholly or in part, for a duration of time exceeding the norm.

On the above postulate, we may premise a vital elixir that can present the two aspects or polarities we seek, as occult students, to find in every theorem under consideration. First, we may assume that Our Elixir can be prepared externally or exteriorly and applied as a synthesis of essential virtues in liquid form to the human organism from without. In such cases it can be used to rectify errors of life which have resulted in sickness, ill health or *disease*, and, if applied to the human organism while the organism is in a status of true and complete health, Our Elixir would normally operate to prolong the life of the organism beyond the norm, at least.

Second, Our Elixir, being liquid or fluid in its nature, can be also prepared *within* and applied to the human organism *in its entirety* from within. If properly applied from within, its potencies will become vastly more effective because they will enjoy a natural distribution and application as *vis medicatrix naturae*. As a matter of fact, we are, individually, distilling and unconsciously applying the *Elixir of Life* or *Elixir Vitae* every day, but with characteristic human ignorance, selfishness, and thoughtlessness, WE ARE WASTING THE ELIXIR DAILY. We are wasting it by the scattering and dissipation of our energies and potential powers and our frivolous use of the magically wonderful forces operative thru the human organism, mentally and physically.

Never before in the history of the human family have the essences constituting the true *Elixir Vitae* been so carelessly wasted and tossed aside as at the present time when the sole thought of the normal human microbe seems to be the desire "for a thrill," for "something with a kick to it", indicating the necessity for mental or physical condiments as stimuli to jaded and *ennuied* minds and nerves.

Investigation, so far as has been possible, of the nature and composition of the several elixirs, which have been produced synthetically by artificial or laboratory process and which have developed any medicinal, restorative or revitalizing properties, has shown the same essential characteristics as are revealed by analysis of the secretions of vital glands in the human organism. Nature, the Great Alchemist, has her private laboratory in each human individual, and, for all we know, in lower organisms as well, in view of the remarkable tenacity of life indicated by some of the lower forms.

Chemists and biological scientists have been able to compound synthetic endocrine secretions that have had as good and sometimes even better effect than the same potencies developed in the human individual by his own glands. The effects produced by these potencies have been little short of marvelous. Cretins have been transformed into mental efficient and remained so as long as the supply of organotherapeutic food lasted and then relapsed. Malformed, human monstrosities have in many notable instances been transmuted into normal creatures by the proper feeding or injections. All these miracles show the way to a constructive method that will be amplified by later knowledge and enable scientists to remodel the human machine and develop desired characteristics more or less at will. And all these miracles have been effected by

application from without of an *elixir vitae* in a true sense, of which we know, at present, only part of the formula. Perhaps the knowledge of the remainder of the formula is dependent upon our further and more complete knowledge of the structure and essence of protoplasm, still the mystery of science.

But note this fact, fellow student; all the miracles that have been effected by the exterior application of synthetic elixirs have also been effected from within without the use of any *synthetic* elixirs at all. Hence we must conclude one thing, namely, that, associated with the elixir produced within the human organism or the elixir produced synthetically without the human organism and subsequently introduced into it by proper method, there is an active factor that is liquid or fluid in its permeating capacity but not subject to chemical analysis by any presently known process.

The cretin, naturally, cannot exert any effort of his own for he is mentally incapable of making conscious effort, but *there is that within him, his sub-conscious or autonomic vegetative faculty, that is not subject to mental aberration, and does respond to and associate itself with either the synthetic elixir applied from without, plus his own contribution, or else to a similar force exerted upon him on the mental plane, but also externally to him.*

The present weak link in the chain of research is the failure of academic and spiritual scientists to unite their forces. The TRUE ELIXIR VITAE IS A UNION OF CHEMICAL AND SPIRITUAL FORCES. They cannot be divorced. There is a very pertinent reason for this fact. Man, as known to all spiritual scientists, is a complex structure. He has a visible, physical body and invisible Etheric and Astral bodies. The Etheric body acts as the link between the Physical and its matrix, the Astral.

The Physical body has a series of organs, which we can dissect and study in the physical laboratory. The Astral and Etheric bodies have—not physical organs—but spiritual centers of energy which we term the psychic centers of force. The physical organs, in, by and of themselves would be mere masses of tissue and inert. They are the physical projections of, and are motivated by, the spiritual centers of force-energy inherent in the invisible Etheric and Astral bodies or instruments of man.

Spirit cannot react directly upon matter, nor matter upon spirit. There must be a connecting medium that transfers and interprets the reactions produced by each factor. Such a medium exists in the "*something*"—possibly that which we call the *hormone* that serves as the "link between" the physical organs and the spiritual energy centers which motivate them.

This hormone, to use a word now commonly used and recognized but as yet little understood, IS BOTH SPIRITUAL AND MATERIAL AND IT ACTS IN A FLUIDIC MANNER. Without the hormone the secretion in which it occurs is useless. With the hormone, the secretion reacts in ways that determine our individual mental, intellectual, spiritual and physical outlook. Therefore as they exercise a shaping and formulating power over the mind, they in turn can be acted upon by mind, hence their peculiar character as keys that lock the visible into synchronous activity with the invisible, the physical with the spiritual.

How is it that man can have such a magical potency within him and still know practically nothing about it? As yet the knowledge of endocrinology as the new science is called is known only to medical researchers, and known well to but few of them. The answer to our question is simple. For ages upon ages, since he crystallized his physical body from its astral mould, Man has turned his senses outward. He seeks earnestly everywhere in the whole wide world for that which is only within himself. In vain have the Philosophers warned man, from Thales down to the present time, "to seek within himself, and if he find not that which he seek within himself, he will never find it without him."

But Man is a stubborn creature. To him it has seemed far easier to search the world around for what he requires than turn his vision inwardly upon himself. The process of turning one's vision inwardly is not easy for the present wave of human evolution for it has departed far from its original status. Such practical introspection can, however, be

performed, if we focus our search upon that point which is the Real Self within, the Divine Watcher that never slumbers or sleeps, enthroned in the heaven of the physical body.

One by one, as we pass thru the septenary divisions of human expression in an individual career, certain keys become no longer effective and others assume greater prominence according to the requirements of the period. This is because Our Elixir has many tinctures or colors and each tincture represents a specific degree or phase of activity and exercises a definite potency that confers upon us the important characteristics of the age which we, individually, have attained.

We are distilling, separating, isolating the constituents of Our Elixir, individually, day by day, but the result so far has been and is potent and operative only to the extent that our cultural status enables our sub-conscious to co-operate with it in the vital functions it performs. As individuals undertake the process of the preparation of their Elixir consciously, even tho only in part, phenomenal results manifest that cannot be concealed. The moment an individual might begin to work upon his individual Elixir in full consciousness of so doing, results surpassing anything heretofore recorded may be expected.

We are satisfied to let our physical bodies take care of themselves. And when, by neglect and carelessness, they run down like worn-out or damaged machines, we take them to a doctor for overhauling and refitting. Then we go out and repeat the process. Immortality, prolonged life, revitalization, do not lie in this Path, my friend. We take less care of our bodies than we do of our prize cattle and household pets.

The real religion of the future will urge Man to care for his physical body as never before, and not only seek to produce a beautiful, healthy, well-regulated machine, but a spiritualized machine as well. Then the Elixir Vitae will be working in full force and the race supermen will begin to arrive. Minerva and Venus will unite with Jupiter and Apollo; Wisdom and Beauty will unite with Divine Benignity and Divine Grace, to produce offspring that will lay the foundations of a race of beings as yet uncomprehended.

How can we begin to work upon Our Elixir? Simply by making, first of all, a careful study of the physical requirements necessary to keep us physically fit. Study dietetics, not according to fad notions of cults, 'isms and 'ologies, but according to common sense which is quite another thing. You may require meat in certain amounts. Another may find it best to discard meats, totally or for a time. All of us require more natural fruit juices as pure solvents. Don't be a slave to calories, but study the values of proteins and carbohydrates and the legumes and experiment to find just what keeps up the right amount of steam and energy in you and cut off all excess food supply. The brain is the thief of the body and it requires a certain number of grains of chemical constituent per day and will have those grains at any cost. Beyond a certain amount of nourishment, the body cannot tolerate and all excess will go to fats.

On the other hand, do not starve the Body. Ethereal and spirituelle types are worthless as active factors in the world's work and the world about you requires men and women who can act the part of men and women, strong, vigorous, efficient. Groom your body. It is the only one you will wear in this incarnation and you ought to take as good care of it as you do your clothes. Then, when you've fixt the notion of the proper care of your body and the avoidance of excesses and dissipation of energy unnecessarily, *spiritualize your body* by mentally holding the thought that everything that you do, everything that you take into the body, has a two-fold value, a physical value and a spiritual value. Impregnate the food digesting and being absorbed into your body with the thought of its spiritual essence and power and then when you have done so consistently for a month, take notice of your attitude in all directions.

If you have begun to work upon yourself as roughly outlined above, you will have been working consciously upon your individual

Elixir and it will have begun to work upon you to an extent that will be readily appreciable, and once you observe and credit the result to its proper source, you will have little temptation to revert back into your aboriginal condition. You will have become "born again" not in the mother's womb, it is true, but thru the waters of an interior spiritual baptism that regenerate physically, mentally and spiritually.

It has been said that "We are what our glands make us." It would be more accurate if it read that we are what we permit our glands to make us, for our free-will exercises sway to our betterment or to our depreciation, according to the intelligence we bring to bear. Ordinarily, our glands will go on by themselves and produce a being that causes the being himself to wonder as to the why and wherefore of his existence. It seems never to occur to the individual being that he might have taken an active hand in the shaping process himself. He blames or credits early training, boyhood environment, youthful influence, home conditions and lack or surfeit of education for what he appears to be.

Having never been taught consciously to work upon his Elixir, and running the risk of facing ridicule and contempt if by any chance he inadvertently learned that there was such a thing and dared to enquire about it, Man has left his Elixir to run wild, and work upon him unrestrainedly. Force is destructive unless and until intelligently directed and applied. Our Elixir is a phase of most potent energy. It can be and is destructive unless controlled thru reasonable methods of living consciously undertaken and maintained.

It is not the purpose of these lessons to cater to those who rule their lives by fads or the absurd pretences to scientific knowledge made by pseudo-occult "orders" and enterprises. These lessons point the way to those who use their God-given senses discriminately and intelligently, not as blind followers of equally blind leaders, but honestly and sincerely attempting to use the facilities provided by modern science in determining what is best for themselves individually in reconstructing and improving their conditions.

It may seem to you at first thought, as rather far fetched, that we can impregnate our food with any influence from our thought. Is it *really* unreasonable? How many times have you heard it said of some one in connection with some important or special work—"he put his best thought into this," or "he built himself into his work": it shows the type and kind of man of man he was." Again, when you have stood in the presence of some splendid work of art, or read an unusually fine work of literature, or noted some wonderful discovery or advance in science, have you not felt the personality and even the presence of the artist, author or brain worker present and enshrined in the work? We verily build ourselves into whatsoever we set our minds upon in all sincerity.

If we have set our minds upon consciously preparing *Our Elixir Vitae* we may be quite well assured that we shall build into our food, our intellectual pabulum and our environment those factors and ingredients that shall enshrine the force, power and potency of our thought as an active agent therein. A few experiments will prove our statements to your own satisfaction. Think of lemons and spices and note the flow of saliva. Think of perfume, any idea of perfume at all, and you will sense the smell of some kind of perfume even tho you cannot identify it. Think of some specific perfume with which you are acquainted and you will feel your sense of smell react to the mental impulse—the thought involved. Think hard of acid stomach and you'll cause a flow of fluids to your stomach that won't leave you in any doubt as to the success of your experiment. Thought alone has compelled the reaction of the body fluids in these experiments. Thought will impregnate your food and cause reactions therein thru perfectly normal chemical processes that will make your Elixir if you are working with that result in mind.

Our individual success with the preparation of our Elixir will depend largely upon the real attitude of mind with which we undertake

it. Do we desire an unusually long life because we love life? "He that loveth his life shall lose it" (*John xii: 25*). Do we seek unusually long life for the sheer good we can do and the happiness we can convey to others? "Whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it" (*Luke, ix; 24*). For, what indeed, as the Scripture sayeth, is a man advantaged if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away (*Luke, ix; 25*)?

Psychology and physiology have united in their discovery and affirmation of the truth that anger and every other mental mood, as well as those mental attitudes of the opposite nature, distil definite chemicals and precipitates within the human organism that affect our ordinary physical status and even our senses, permanently or temporarily. People have gone blind thru rage and some of them *have stayed blind*. Apoplectic and other strokes have been precipitated thru tremendous mental attitudes. These things are not secrets. Every well informed person knows them to be true.

It seems to be human nature, however, to ascribe the activity of such moods to the other fellow, forgetting, conveniently, that because we too are human, we are subject to a greater or lesser degree to exactly the same conditions. The point is, that our moods compel our fluids to a wonderful degree. Happiness and laughter send the finest digestive fluids to the stomach and intestines. Our moods are resultant upon our thoughts. Thought, then, in the last analysis, is all important in our bodily economy. We have shown that thought can influence anything in or connected with us. This includes the food stuffs we take aboard and from which our glandular lieutenants distil and distribute our individual Elixirs.

Let us look a bit further. Academically, an elixir is said to be, medicinally, "a sweetened, aromatized alcoholic preparation holding small quantities of medicinal substances in solution; formerly a compound tincture." No definition can be truer. The Elixir is a medicine because it revitalizes, rejuvenates and prolongs life. It is sweet because in it are contained the essences of all that is sweet and clean in our lives. Our thoughts are clean only as they serve as instruments or vehicles for the manifestation of the various personal virtues of integrity, honor, personal responsibility, moral accountability, charity, kindness and brotherhood both of human beings and of animals,—our younger brethren in evolution.

Our Elixir is aromatized, for it has all the blends of perfume developed by the subtle aura of a healthy, clean, aura. Our Elixir is alcoholic for alcohol represents clear, transparent, subtle spirit and Our Elixir the liquid, is essentially spirit. Our Elixir is a preparation for we prepare it consciously or unconsciously from the ingredients we make a chemical part of our bodies. Our Elixir holds small quantities of medicinal substances in solution, actually, not figuratively, for Our Elixir is something that does, most potently, exist and has substance, and its substance is made up of the substances of elements that are medicinal, for they are essential extracts and each has constructive powers of its own.

Our Elixir is, in very truth, a "compound structure." It is compound because it contains many elements. It is a structure because it is built up from several materials. It will not be an exaggeration nor will it require a stretch of the imagination to understand that Our Elixir is the Essence of Ourselves, mentally, physically, spiritually. It is physiological, psychologic and psychic in its inherent nature and function. It operates in two worlds, the physical and the spiritual. The Elixir of life is the *essence* of life and therefore in a subtle sense, life itself. That is why it applies to prolong life, for we add the essence of what we have to the mass of what we have.

Have you ever made a visit to any one of the great pharmaceutical manufacturers? If so, you will have observed an interesting feature. With rare exceptions, no given medicinal preparation is made complete in any one department. A master mind holds the complete formula to any given preparation. This formula is given out only in parts to each of the several departments that may be concerned in its preparation or manufacture. Materials are drawn from the stock room for each depart-

ment. No one department known what the other department has done to what comes to it, or what the department to which they will send it, will do with it. In the last department, the results of all the previous departments are assembled and the finishing work is performed.

This is a graphic illustration to the story of Our Elixir. The Master-mind, the Ego, alone has the complete formula. The materials are gathered by each of the several vital organs in the body. Each does its own individual share of the work of secretion. As each finishes its work, the result is thrown into the blood or lymph circulation and distributed to the particular customer who requires it. These results unite in assembly, and their individual hyper or hypo function determines character, mentality, ability, success or failure in various avenues of outward expression and inward vision. Taken in their united totality, they constitute the compound structure we call the Elixir.

If we follow the path of science alone, we may be able to make the Elixir synthetically with ever increasing degrees of success. Its functions will, however, be limited. If, on the other hand, we follow the spiritual path alone, we shall work effectively upon Our Elixir, but again, its functions will be limited. The physical and the spiritual must unite, as we have shown in the text of this instruction. Union of the physical and the spiritual is a well defined law. The exposition of this law was one of the principal reasons for the incarnation of the Christos, which, we have always been taught, united the Divine with the human elements.

Christian esoterism consists in attaining the mind of Christ to the most complete degree possible, and in this attainment we must learn the law of uniting the divine and human factors by uniting the material or, physical with the spiritual in all our undertakings. Not only are we to learn this particular, more important still—we are to practice it.

Those who are quite convinced that the whole idea of the Elixir Vitae is a chimera and an atavism from medievalism, are, of course, "within their rights" but they are turning their backs upon their own most vital constituent. It is from such groups, who enjoy the sunshine while all is fair, but bewail their afflictions when shadows fall, that those who get the least of the spirit of life and its happy responsibilities are recruited. The Elixir Vitae is one of the most objective and powerful facts in all human experience. But if we determine to seek it by the methods indicated in this instruction, first of all be honest with ourselves. Our thought must be right to start with. There is no use in trying to convince ourselves that we desire the Elixir for the benefit of humanity unless and until we are actually doing the best we can for humanity before beginning our effort.

Many of those who have proved their unselfishness without any specific knowledge of the Elixir have come into a happy consciousness and understanding of it unwittingly, for if our thought is right, constructive effort is bound to follow right lines of endeavor and show results eventually.